

Table 4.I: Definitions of Impact Levels

IMPACT TOPIC	IMPACT LEVEL			
	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major
Physical Resources (Air & Water Quality, Geologic Resources, Floodplain, & Hydrology)	Little or no change in physical resources.	Short-term changes to physical resources that occur in a small geographic area.	Short-term changes to physical resources occur over a large geographic area or long-term changes occur over a small, localized area.	Long-term changes to physical resources occur over a large geographic area
Vegetation & Wetlands	Little or no change in vegetation or wetlands.	Short-term changes to vegetation or wetlands occur in a small geographic area.	Short-term changes to vegetation or wetlands occur over a large geographic area or long-term changes occur over a small, localized area.	Long-term changes to vegetation or wetlands occur over a large geographic area.
Wildlife & Aquatic Resources	Little or no change in wildlife or aquatic resources.	Short-term local changes in wildlife or aquatic resource populations or habitats.	Short-term widespread changes to wildlife or aquatic resource populations or habitat.	Long-term widespread changes to wildlife or aquatic resource populations or habitat.
Cultural Resources	Little or no change in cultural sites.	Some change to a limited number of cultural sites and/or a unique representative class of cultural resources	Some change to widespread/numerous cultural sites and /or unique representative class of cultural resources.	Complete or near complete change of multiple cultural sites and /or a unique representative class of cultural resources.
Visitor Use & Experience	Little or no change in visitor use or experience.	Short-term, local change in visitor use or experience.	Short-term, widespread change in visitor use or experience.	Long-term, widespread change in visitor use or experience.
Scenic Values	Little or no change in scenic values.	Short-term changes to scenic values occur in a small geographic area.	Short-term changes to scenic values occur over a large geographic area or long-term changes occur over a small, localized area.	Long-term changes to scenic values occur over a large geographic area.
Public Access & Safety	Little or no change in public access or safety.	Short-term, local change in public access or safety.	Short-term, widespread change in public access or safety.	Long-term, widespread change in public access or safety.
Wilderness	Little or no change in wilderness character or status.	Small changes in wilderness character affect only a small part of the park.	Modest changes in wilderness character affect a substantial part of the park or large changes affect a only a small part of the park.	Substantial changes in wilderness character affect a large portion of the park.
Park Management	Little or no change in staffing levels, or management operations or priorities.	Required management adjustments can be made over the short-term (1-2 years).	Most management adjustments can be made over the short-term (1-2 years), some require an additional 1-2 years.	Broad –based management adjustments, generally require several years to implement.
Local Economy	Little or no noticeable change in economic activity.	Local changes in economic activity.	Regional changes in overall economic activity.	Widespread significant changes in overall economic activity.